15/5/1990

THE EVERARD READ GALLERY

Historians and biographers will establish, one day, that, at the end of the 80's, there was a shift in Tadeusz Jaroszynski's work from Nature to Humanity. A shift from painting the sea and the sky which he filled with the immense happiness he drew from the depth of his life and his propensity to create magic, to painting men and women. This evolution, or rather this break, is remarkable and seems total.

The artist we are concerned with, the last avatar of one of the greatest and most complex inspirations of our times, is situated (if one needs to place him in a family at all costs) in an affiliation - from Modigliani to Botero. Just look at the men and women who now dwell in the world of Tadeusz Jaroszynski. All are unique individuals (especially the women) with a transfixed and/or lost gaze, long faces on long necks and eyes, disturbing, forming a contrast with the plaster of the faces. Faces? All bear the passions, all bearing the marks of trials ... often like masks. Jaroszynski's characters seem to come from a fashionable party which would be the experience of their lives - almost as if they suddenly appeared from another world to which they bear witness. What is striking, is the fixity of their gaze, sometimes close to hallucination.

These men and women belong to the here and now yet one may just sense them as being from another world, a world which has left

THE EVERARD READ GALLERY (PTY) LTD REG NO. 76/02580/07

6 JELLICOE AVENUE CORNER KEYES AVENUE ROSEBANK JOHANNESBURG TELEPHONE (011) 788-4805 FAX (011) 788-5914
PRIVATE BAG 5 PARKLANDS 2121 SOUTH AFRICA
DIRECTORS E.W READ P.READ I.E. KEOGAN T.E. READ M.E.C. READ W.G. SHIELDS

the presence of a dream on their faces. Faces whose features are so chiseled, so tormented, so magnified in certain details that monstrosity looms near. And it is not just any kind of monstrosity ...

The art of the painter consists in isolating the face, the one element intended to express the meaning of the rest of the body. Colours and setting are chosen and arranged for this purpose. That is why the clothes are large, loaded, swollen and abundant in order to, by contrast, highlight the austerity of the face.

Admirable Jaroszynski. Fifteen years ago I said and I wrote, in Europe, that he is a powerful talent - and now may South Africa recognize it.

YVES BERGER

YVES BERGER: A biography

Born in Avignon in 1934, the son of a truck driver - an important detail as his works are filled with the love of travel. Since his childhood, Berger has been fascinated by North American minorities and we owe him the discovery of Marie-Claire Blais from Quebec and of Antonine Maillet from Acadia, whose works he prefaced. He has also prefaced "Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee" by Dee Brown (A book which awakened the French Public to the plight of the North American Indians), "Peau-Rouge" (Redskin) by the Sioux, Vine Deloria, and "Voyage en Terre Indienne" (Travels in Indian Land) by T C McLuhan.

In Berger's books, dream and literary work form one passionate quest for the Indian and "The Indias" as their land was called at the time of Christopher Columbus. In "The Famous Questionnaire of Marcel Proust", he answered to the question: "Who are your favorite Heroes?": Columbus, Sacajawea (The Bird Woman of the Shosbones), Tecumseh (A Shawnee Patriot, Chief Jo (Brilliant strategist of the Pierced-Noses), Scarlett O'Hara, the Southerner General Lee and Gutenberg.

Indians, the South where all myths originated and the written word all form one.

IMPORTANT WORKS

* "Le Sud" - (The South)

  An essay on Boris Pasternak (Ed. Seghers) preceded this first novel by Yves Berger. "Le Sud" was shown on French TV Antenne 2 in January 1982, adapted for television by Marcel Jullian and Ariane Fasquelle and produced by Phillipe.

* "Le Fou" - (The Madman)

* A short text, delivered at Mutualit and published in a collective book, "Que Peut la Litterature?".

* "Le Fou d'Amerique" - (The Madman of America)

  About this book, Jacques Cabau said: "The first great book on on America ... America, our common dream".

* "Les Indiens des Plaines" - (The Prairie Indians)

  Published as a luxurious albumn in 1978 by Dargaud.

* "Luberons"

  Published in 1979 by Che. It is an essay on the 'country above' with photographs by Martine Franck.

* "La Nouvelle-Orleans" - (The New Orleans)

  Published in 1982 by Pacifique

* "Matins du Nouveau-Monde" - (Mornings of the Third World)

  Published in 1987

* "Entre Ciel et Terre" - (Between Heaven and Earth)

  A text inspired by Louisiana complemented with photographs by Marc Garanger. Published in 1989.

* "La Pierre et le Saguaro" - (The Stone and the Saguaro)

  Published in March 1990. A long incantatory essay on the magic of the American desert.

PRIZES

Berger was awarded: The Femina Prize for his novel "Le Sud"
The Prince Pierre of Monaco Prize in 1987